

# September 2007 The Orchid Grower



## Orchid Growers' Guild

### THE NEXT MEETING: September 23<sup>RD</sup>

Wayne King (OGG Charter member and experienced grower) will speak about, "The Role of Classification in Judging Orchid Quality."

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### Welcome back to OGG

It is hard to believe that summer is coming to a close. I hope your word of orchids has been an interesting one. One note of interest is that a woman in Cross Plains donated to the guild eighteen orchid plants because she was moving to California where the guidelines for transporting plants across the border are very tight. She was happy that her orchid family would find new homes where they would be well cared for. The plants are healthy, happy and well cared for. The plan is to auction these plants off at our September meeting. You are in for a treat.

#### Meeting Dates

- September 23 - Meeting Room
- October 21 - Atrium
- November 18 – Ackers
- December 16 - Meeting Room
- January 20, 2008 - Meeting Room
- February 17 - Atrium
- March 9 - Meeting Room
- March 22 - Orchid Sale with Pansy Sale at Olbrich
- April 20 - Meeting Room
- May 18 - Meeting Room
- June TBA
- September 7 - Atrium
- October 19 - Atrium
- December 14 - Meeting Room

#### Up-coming Events

- September 15 and 16, Wisconsin Orchid Society Show
- September 21-23, 2007, 15th Annual Chicagoland Orchidfest
- October 13-14, 2007, Illinois Orchid Society Fall Mini-Show
- October 27-28, 2007, Blackhawk Orchid Society Show

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I want you to know that many people have been working behind the scenes in preparation for the September meeting. I am very excited about the new members on the board. There is a committee of five working on a more comprehensive mission statement. The program committee is working hard to make our monthly meetings interesting and educational. We hope to have an OGG Handbook ready for all of you at the

September meeting. I think that it is important that we all band together to make OGG a success this next year. We need you to bring your plants to the meeting and for the away shows. **It is important that more of us volunteer with Away Shows set up and take down.** Think of it as a way to bond with other orchid enthusiasts and to get that "adrenalin rush" when surrounded with orchid plants.

- November 17-18, 2007, Fall 2007 Mid-America Orchid Congress
- January 23-27, 2008, 19th World Orchid Congress
- February 2-3, 2008, Orchid Quest
- March 27-29, 2008, Spring Mid-America Orchid Congress
- March 28-30, 2008, 33<sup>rd</sup> Illowa Orchid Society Spring Show, Davenport, IA

**Officers and Committees**

**President:**

Judy Stevenson (2008)  
[judy\\_stevenson@SBCGlobal.net](mailto:judy_stevenson@SBCGlobal.net)

**Vice President:**

Jill Hynum (2009)  
[jhynum@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jhynum@sbcglobal.net)

**Secretary:**

Annette Minter (2009)  
[Studio725@charter.net](mailto:Studio725@charter.net)

**Treasurer:**

Irene Mackie (2008)  
[Irenepeacemaker2004@yahoo.com](mailto:Irenepeacemaker2004@yahoo.com)

**Board:**

Liz Barlow (2008)  
[eabarlow@wisc.edu](mailto:eabarlow@wisc.edu)

Svetlana Kot (2009)  
[grigkot@gmail.com](mailto:grigkot@gmail.com)

Rich Narf (2010)  
[znarfi@execpc.com](mailto:znarfi@execpc.com)

**Away Shows:**

Sandy Delamater (2007)  
[sldjnt@peoplepc.com](mailto:sldjnt@peoplepc.com)

**Hospitality:**

Dawn Weckler (2008)  
Jeri Gjertson (2008)

**Librarian:**

Liz Wood (2008)  
[ewood@biochem.wisc.edu](mailto:ewood@biochem.wisc.edu)

**Membership:**

Board of Directors

**Newsletter:**

Svetlana Kot  
Denise Baylis  
[jrbaylis@tds.net](mailto:jrbaylis@tds.net)

**Orchid Quest:**

Board of Directors

It is our hope that “there will be something for everyone” this next year at OGG. Take time to give us your feedback so we can make it meaningful for you. We would love to hear about your summer and any orchid adventures you might have had in the October Newsletter.

## OPEN MAOC REPRESENTATIVE POSITION

When Don Fago resigned from the Treasurer position in March 2007, he also relinquished his MAOC Liaison position. In the May OGG Newsletter, an article “MAOC Corner” written by Wayne King, explained the history of MAOC. Furthermore Wayne stated that MAOC presence helps to give the Guild visibility in fulfilling its mission as noted in its By-Laws. Please call or e-mail someone on the OGG Board if you are interested in this position.

## FIFTY YEARS IN THE ORCHID BUSINESS

### Oak Hill Gardens open house – August 4

Oak Hill Gardens Illinois invited greenhouse open house on three of the Societies were Northeastern Society (NEOS), Society (WOS) Nine members the trip. We AM to browse were served fresh excellent dish of which the famous.



Hermann Pigors

in Dundee, OGG to their complex for an August 4. All Wisconsin Orchid invited, Wisconsin Orchid and ourselves. from OGG made arrived about 10 and shop. We fruit and an *Italian Beef* for Chicago area is

A highlight of the day was a biographical lecture by Hermann Pigors. He arrived in Chicago from New York in 1957, not knowing that he was going to Chicago, the location of the church that sponsored his immigration from Germany. In his early years here, he was an employee of nearby Hausermann's Orchids until he purchased the Dundee property in 1973. These were his reflections on how orchid propagation has changed over the last fifty years.

Hermann Pigors and family are celebrating 50 years in the orchid

**Programs:**  
Elaine Malter

**Ribbon Judging:**  
Wayne King

**Web Master:**  
Svetlana Kot  
[grigkot@gmail.com](mailto:grigkot@gmail.com)

**Liaisons:**

**Alliant:** Elaine Malter (2007)  
**AOS:** Jill Hynum (2007)  
**MAOC:** TBA  
**Orchid Digest:** Jill Hynum (2007)

**Submit your photos to be included in the newsletter. Every month we want to include a gallery of photos to enjoy. Email your photos to Svetlana ([grigkot@gmail.com](mailto:grigkot@gmail.com)) and Denise ([jrbaylis@tds.net](mailto:jrbaylis@tds.net))**

business in Illinois. Hermann purchased Oak Hill with one greenhouse and a home on five acres. At that time, orchids were imported and grown mainly for cut flowers and corsages, which was Hausermann's primary business. In the 70's Herman also sold a great many house plants and garden supplies. At that time, orchids were imported from the Philippines, Hawaii, Thailand, Indonesia and even Canada. The CITES (International Trade Protection Program) trade restrictions and international fear of pests and viruses have resulted in greatly reduced international trade.

Hermann noted several other economic changes over the past 50 years. Because there have been times when he never received payment for orchids sent abroad, he now asks payment for the orchids in advance. Exporting orchids (for example shipping to Canada) has become more difficult. Overseas shipments cannot be guaranteed, as orchid plants are sometimes held up at customs. Energy costs have increased, decreasing his margin of profit. Competition has intensified since the big box stores started selling orchids.

Cloning is much more labor intensive than raising orchids in flasks from seed; because of this, Thai growers have an advantage in labor costs for cloning, so Oak Hill emphasizes selective breeding and raising orchids from seed. Hermann works hard in his lab to develop new hybrids and improved species lines. He has developed his own growing mixes, a greenhouse pest control system and semi annual mail catalog. During his career he has seen orchid growing change from a cut flower and corsage industry, to today's market for orchid plants sold to individual hobbyists and home growers. He has seen many changes, good and bad, but remains enthusiastic and is an excellent speaker. The urban area around Oak Hill is growing rapidly, but their location near a park and golf course ensure a bit of country feel at Oak Hill.

The skies were cloudy which made walking through the greenhouses comfortable despite it being a summer day. OGG also had a bit of luck that day, winning two of the four door prizes. We hope more of you will be able to attend next year.



Lorraine Snyder in the Oak Hill greenhouse



Hermann Pigors speaking at Oak Hill Gardens



Porcelain by Annette Minter

## PORCELAIN EXHIBIT

The Overture Center for the Arts is currently showing Capitol Artists, porcelain painters. Our own OGG Secretary Annette Minter is one of the exhibitors. Enjoy a collection of unique porcelain paintings from floral and landscapes to portraits and still life. Porcelain painting is a form of decoration for porcelains and other ceramics that involves multiple layers of special glazes applied to a piece of previously glazed porcelain or ceramic to form a visual design, often flowers. It is kiln-fired after each layer to set the color. The end result is a rich, permanent design on the piece.

The show, “**Spectrum of Wisconsin Porcelain Artists**” is on display in Gallery II until September 12 and is free.

### IN MEMORIUM

#### Ruth Duncan, Orchid Lover

Ruth Duncan, a former long-time active OGG member passed away July 8 at Hospice Care. She was always of good humor and a friend to be remembered. She had the distinction of having *Phalaenopsis* Ruth Duncan named after her by Dwayne McDowell while he worked at Klehm’s-- even though her favorite orchids were paphs. Being a lover of science and nature, she collected rocks and was an avid orchid enthusiast, nurturing as many as 200 orchids in her basement greenhouse. In early years, she photographed flowers and painted landscapes, in later years, she read many dozens of science, mystery, fiction and religious books. She was a very pleasant and helpful orchid grower. Due to health reasons, Ruth wasn't able to continue to participate in OGG activities in the past few years.

Memorials may be made in her name to Hospice Care Inc. or Wisconsin Public Radio. We'll miss Ruth's kindness, sensitivity, curiosity, generosity and love.



### OLBRICH SUMMER GARDEN TOUR



It seems as though summer has flown by. Where did the time go? One of my favorite things to do each summer is to take a day off from work for the annual Olbrich Summer Garden Tour. This year, a total of eight predominantly shade gardens were chosen in the Nakoma neighborhood for the tour. Once again I found it to be a wonderful day of respite and enjoyment. Each yard was totally unique. I was surprised that one of the stops was at the garden of an OGG member, Elaine Malter. Her yard was a double lot so that there was room for a lot of diversity. In the front shaded area, the native flowers of Wisconsin grew. In the back where

there was more sun, she was able to have a vegetable garden (after cement from a long driveway was removed). There was a running water feature created by her husband. Most of her orchids received shade and some sun near this water feature. Her garden was of one of two which included orchids. Hopefully the public who took advantage of the tour will be more apt to try growing orchids themselves.

-- An OGG Member

## ORCHIDS BY THE ACKERS IN FULL BLOOM

The August 9, 2007, article by James Edward Mills for the Wisconsin State Journal about the family owned business, Orchids by the Ackers, reaffirms what we as members of Madison Orchid Grower's Guild already know. It is a business where we can get helpful advice from owner, Nancy Acker-Skolaski, or pick up an exotic looking plant for as little as \$20 or has much as \$250. The Guild is lucky to have such an extraordinary business located in our area and appreciate the knowledge, support, and contributions that are so freely given. Thanks Nancy and your staff.

-- Annette Minter

## ORCHID GROWERS' GUILD POINT TOTALS

December, 2006 – June, 2007

These are the total point scores to date for the current award period. Now is the opportunity for members to find out their relative standing and to have an opportunity to question its accuracy. There are many places where errors can occur so take the time to verify your point total and let Wayne King know about any discrepancies.

### Beginner's Class

Judy Stevenson 15

### One to Five Years

Richard Narf 26

Lorraine Snyder 26

Svetlana Kot 23

Jody Thistle 19

Richard Narf 18

Elaine Malter 16

Sarah Lundey 12

Lorraine Snyder 7

Len Huebner 4

Don Fago 4

Dawn Weckler 2

### Five to Ten Years

Sandy Delamater 236

Meg McLaughlin 26

Liz Wood 6

Irene Mackie 4

### Over Ten Years

Wayne King 56

Steve Thimling 39

Susan Reed 21

Dennis Pfarrer 12

Jeff Baylis 12

Jill Hynum 8

Richard Miller 2

### Help with Displays

Sandy Delamater 34.5

Judy Stevenson 14

Sue Reed 8

Meg McLaughlin 6

Jill Hynum 6

Wayne King 5

Sarah Lundey 3

Amy Ripp 3

Arlene King 3



## Wisconsin Orchid Society Fall Show

“Fall in Love with Orchids 2007”

September 15 and 16, 9 am to 5 pm  
The Show Dome  
Mitchell Park Conservatory  
524 S. Layton Blvd.  
Milwaukee WI 53215



You are invited to enjoy our award-winning exhibits of flowering orchid plants, pottery, photographs and paintings and other orchid-related exhibits. After you have enjoyed the exhibits, you will want to go to the sales area and purchase your favorite orchids, pots, books, potting medium, or possibly a T-shirt or two. There will be a variety of items to purchase at reasonable prices. A list of our vendors follows along with a link to their businesses. There will be Wisconsin Orchid Society members in the show and sales area to help you with any questions you may have. Do visit the Society table in the sales area. There are a variety of other activities for you to participate in also: informational talks, videos, and a number of raffles.

This is the first show of the new season so get your blooming orchids to Acker's by 4 pm on September 13. They must be disease and pest-free. Each box of plants needs to be labeled #1, #2, etc. with a list of what orchids are in each box. Members must notify Sandy Delamater by 7 pm on September 10 which plants you (may or may not) be submitting to the WOS show. Your plants can be picked up from Acker's the following Monday after noon. **Note that Sandy has a new email address of [sldjnt@peoplepc.com](mailto:sldjnt@peoplepc.com). OGG also needs volunteers to take-down the show.**



Epi quitensium



Lepotes unicolor

Photographs by Rich Narf

# 2007 Chicagoland Orchid Festival

The Chicagoland Orchid Festival takes place simultaneously at four different orchid greenhouse locations. Spanning a three day period, the greenhouses of Oak Hill Gardens, Windsong Orchids, Orchids by Hausermann, and Natt's Orchids will be open to the public during the festival. The festival features a vast array of plants for sale by "guest growers," presentations by world-renowned orchid specialists, refreshments, special bargains, and the opportunity to stroll among the most exotic and beautiful plants found in nature. All four sites are within a 40-minute drive of each other and are run by experts in the field of orchid horticulture. To find out more about the flowers and events available at each location, contact the website [chicagolandorchidfestival.com](http://chicagolandorchidfestival.com)

**September 21st and 22nd 8am-5pm; Sunday, September 23rd 10 am-3pm**

<b>Hosting Nursery</b>	<b>Guest Growers</b>	<b>Program Times/Dates</b>
<b>Oak Hill Gardens</b> 37W550 Binnie Rd. Dundee, IL 60118 (847) 428-8500	Andy's Orchids (CA) EFG Orchids/Powerplant (FL) J & L Orchids (CT) Plantio La Orquidea (FL/Venezuela) Orchids, Ltd. (MN) Purple Clay Imports/Pots (IL)	<b>Saturday 2:00 pm</b> <i>"Growing Miniatures in the Home"</i> -Lucinda Winn (J & L)  <b>Saturday 3:00 pm</b> <i>"Effective Insect &amp; Disease Control "</i> -Hermann Pigors (OHG)
<b>Windsong Orchids</b> 14N456 Factly Rd. Sycamore, IL 60178 (847) 683-2139	Hoosier Orchid Co. (IN) Ecuagenera (Ecuador) The Orchid Trading Co. (IL) Cyp Haven (Carson Whitlow) (IA)	<b>Saturday 10:00 am</b> <i>"How Orchids Have Sex: Advanced Pollination Mechanisms"</i> -Erich Michel (Hoosier Orchids)
<b>Orchids by Hausermann &amp; Fox Valley Orchids, Ltd.</b> 2NI34 Addison Rd. Villa Park, IL 60181 (630) 543- 6855 (Hausermann phone) (630) 458-0636 (Fox Valley phone) These two nurseries share the same address; they are located under the same roof.	Orchid Inn (IL)	<b>Friday 1:00 pm</b>  <i>"Cattleya: Queen of the Orchids"</i> -Dana Harrison (Hausermann's)  <b>Saturday 1:00 pm</b> <i>"The Slipper Orchids"</i> -Sarn Tsui (Orchid Inn)
<b>Natt's Orchids</b> 24645 W. 103rd St. Naperville, IL 60564 (630) 904-0947	Best of Thai Orchids (Thailand) Galaxy Orchids (MI) Miranda Orchids (Brazil)	<b>Saturday 4:00 pm</b> <i>"Wine and Cheese Orchid Round Table: bring your questions, we'll try to answer!"</i> -Hosted by Natt's and the Guest Growers

## UP-COMING EVENTS

- 🌸 September 15 and 16, Wisconsin Orchid Society Show
- 🌸 September 21-23, 2007, 15th Annual Chicagoland Orchid Festival
- 🌸 October 13-14, 2007, Illinois Orchid Society Fall Mini-Show, Glencoe, IL
- 🌸 October 19-21, AOS Members Meeting, AOS Visitors Center and Botanical Garden, Delray Beach, FL [www.aosfall2007.com](http://www.aosfall2007.com)
- 🌸 November 17-18, 2007, Fall 2007 Mid-America Orchid Congress sponsored by Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City, Kansas City Orchid Expo, Hilton Garden Inn, Independence, MO
- 🌸 January 23-27, 2008, 19th World Orchid Congress will be held in Miami FL the theme for the show is "Orchids–Nature's Masterpiece™."
- 🌸 February 2-3, 2008, Orchid Quest
- 🌸 March 27-29, 2008, Central Ohio Orchid Society Spring Show in conjunction with Spring MAOC, Columbus, OH
- 🌸 March 28-30, 2008, 33rd Illowa Orchid Society Spring Show, Putnam Museum and IMAX® Theatre, 1717 W. 12th Street, Davenport, IA [palwumla@aol.com](mailto:palwumla@aol.com)

*You know you are addicted to orchids when...*

*... you start checking with all your friends to see who wants to combine orders just so you can get a larger discount and get more plants.*

*... you order one while fretting that you may not be able to get the ones you already have (which no longer fit in the growing area of your house) into the greenhouse rental space before it freezes.*

## NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 11 at 7 p.m. They will meet at Judy Stevenson's residence. Check with Judy Stevenson for the agenda and any last minute changes.

**The Orchid Growers' Guild, Inc. (OGG) is a non-profit organization, affiliated with the American Orchid Society. It is dedicated to the education of both OGG members and the public about orchids and their culture. OGG also promotes the conservation and appreciation of orchids. Meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. See our website at [orchidguild.org](http://orchidguild.org) for more information.**